

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication system comprising:

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a transmitter having a signal input means, a modulator means for producing  $m$  ( $m \geq 4$ ) signal points in a signal space diagram expressed at least in a polar coordinate system  $(r, \theta)$  through modulation of a carrier wave using an input signal fed from the signal input means, and a transmitting means for transmitting a modulated signal modulated in said modulator means, in which said input signal contains a first data stream of  $n$  values and a second data stream, said  $m$  signal points are divided into  $n$  signal point groups, said  $n$  values of the first data stream are assigned to specify said  $n$  signal point groups respectively, and said second data stream is assigned to specify signal points in each signal point group; and

a receiver having an input means for reception of said modulated signal transmitted from the transmitter, a demodulating means for demodulating said modulated signal into a multi-level signal representing  $P$  signal points in a signal space diagram expressed at least in the polar coordinate system  $(r, \theta)$ , and an output means for outputting a signal demodulated by said demodulating means, in which said  $P$  signal points are divided into signal point groups of  $n$  values, the first data stream of  $n$  values is demodulated so as to be assigned to said  $n$  values of said signal point groups, and the second data stream of  $P/n$  values is demodulated so as to be assigned to  $P/n$  signal points of each point group for

reconstruction of data of the first and second data streams.

2. A communication system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said signal points are divided into a plurality of groups in a radius (r) direction of said polar coordinate system to encode said first or second data stream.

3. A communication system in accordance with claim 1, wherein said signal points are divided into a plurality of groups in an angular ( $\theta$ ) direction of said polar coordinate system to encode said first or second data stream.

4. A communication system based on an OFDM system in which a plurality of carriers being quadrate with each other are used for data transmission of a plurality of subchannels, characterized in that

a guard time slot containing no signal, disposed in front of a symbol transmission time slot on time base, is differentiated in each subchannel.

5. A communication system in accordance with claim 4, wherein said subchannels includes a first subchannel transmitting a high-frequency component of a TV signal and a second subchannel transmitting a low-frequency component thereof, in which a guard time slot of said second subchannel is set to be larger than a guard time slot of said first subchannel.

6. A communication system based on an OFDM system in which a plurality of carriers being quadrate with each other are used for data transmission of a plurality of subchannels, characterized in that

a guard time slot containing no signal is disposed in front of a symbol transmission time slot on time base, and a carrier wave interval of said symbol transmission time slot is differentiated in each subchannel.

5           7. A communication system in accordance with claim 6, wherein said subchannels includes a first subchannel transmitting a high-frequency component of a TV signal and a second subchannel transmitting a low-frequency component thereof, in which a carrier wave interval of said second  
10 subchannel is set to be larger than a carrier wave interval of said first subchannel.

8. A communication system based on an OFDM system in which a plurality of carriers being quadrate with each other are used for data transmission of a plurality of subchannels,  
15 characterized in that

transmission electric power of said carrier is differentiated in each subchannel.

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